

Position Paper for General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Limiting the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa; Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security; and Supporting the Sudan Peace Process. The Central African Republic is dedicated to advancing the progress on the MDGs, engaging in the elimination of international Terrorism and supports a fair approach to tackle climate change in order to avoid potential conflicts.

I. 10-Year Review of the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals

Compared to the initial ambitions of the MDGs, we want to draw attention to the fact that the current progress of achieving the MDGs in the Central African Republic is behind our expectations. We acknowledge that a great responsibility to achieving these goals in our country lies within our own responsibility. However, it has been clear from the beginning that without the support of the international community the development goals cannot be achieved. Ranking on place 172 out of 177 on the Human Development Index we strongly encourage our international friends and partners to act now in order to advance the situation in the Central African Republic. The following states where we stand today on the eight MDGs: 1) More than two thirds of our population earn less than \$1 per day.

2) Net enrolment ratio in primary education is 45%. The percentage of pupils who start grade 1 and reach grade 5 is 39%. 3) The seats held by women in national parliament is 10%. 4) The mortality rate of children under 5 years old is 175 out of 1000 live births. 35% of 1 year old children are immunized against measles. 5) The maternal mortality ratio is 980 out of 100.000 births. 6) 6% of 15 to 49 year olds live with HIV/AIDS. 528 out of 100.000 suffer from tuberculosis. 7) The land area covered by forest are 36% and carbon dioxide emissions per capita are 0.06 metric tons per year. Only 66% of the population have access to improved drinking water sources. 8) 0.3% of our population have access to internet. The most urgent measures necessary are in health, sanitation, agriculture and food security, education and infrastructure.

II. Elimination of International Terrorism

In the Central African Republic itself, there is a low risk of international terrorism. However, we believe that it is necessary to take action against this threat. However, in considering which countries are the most affected and which countries have the greatest interest in fighting terrorism should not be neglected. Moreover, diplomatic solutions and

a peaceful approach with a strong development focus should be preferred. Even though there is no significant threat of terrorism from the Central African Republic we ask the international community for financial assistance in order to provide security and give our citizens personal perspectives.

III. Climate Change / Environmental Degradation as a Source of Conflict

The COP15 in Copenhagen was a too timid step towards climate protection. The exclusive approach of the main players at the conference left smaller countries to themselves. We urge those who are historically responsible for the emergence of an unfavourably changing climate to live up to their responsibility. The Central African Republic supports a global system of emissions trading where one emission right is granted to each world citizen. Countries with higher emissions would have to purchase emission rights from countries who do not use their assigned emission permits. We believe that a per capita distribution of emission rights is the only fair solution to this global problem. The absence of a fair system, which would allow for capital transfers from polluting to less-polluting countries, may be a source of conflict. The continuation of current public policy by the industrialized world does not prevent but promote conflict. We urge global leaders to assist poorer countries with technology transfer as well as financial assistance for mitigation and adaptation measures. The historical responsibility of the industrialized world cannot be ignored.